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AGRICULTURE

Frequency of Meetings: 3 meetings in FY 1955; 2 meetings this fall

<u>SC Members</u> <u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Valuable?</u>	<u>Continue?</u>	<u>Future Work?</u>	<u>Faults?</u>
AFOIN	Yes	Yes	-	-
Agriculture	Yes - has performed a valuable service	Yes - practice of meeting only when particular problems arise should be continued	Developing a more coordinated program for collecting agricultural information on the satellite countries and on Communist China and Indo-China	None - except nearly every agency on the SC is so busily engaged on various projects of its own that they have not had sufficient time to give adequate attention to the problems presented. This is not so much a fault of the SC as it is shortage of personnel in the various agencies who are members of the SC
G-2	Yes	Yes	On call	None
ICA	Formerly yes, of late not much	Present SC fairly well constituted; some agencies might send higher level people	An excellent forum to: (a) insure that EIC and intelligence community is kept current on information available and where; (b) insure that member agencies are kept current on need for intelligence generally and specifically; (c) give skilled counsel on achieving a proper level of intelligence needed by US	In recent past: (a) meetings too seldom; (b) SC members not taken into confidence as to work being done in CIA, problems encountered, and progress on plans for future
OIR	Yes	Yes	Exchange and testing of ideas	Uneven character of representation; need to bring in more specialized individuals on particular problems

ORR

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Subcommittee's Evaluation of Itself (From Annual Report):

"This coordination made possible far better estimates than might have been possible by any single analyst or group from a single agency.

Future Program of the Subcommittee:

"No changes in the present structure or in the functioning of the subcommittee on Agriculture are contemplated for 1955-56.

"After about two years of regularly scheduled meetings, the subcommittee decided to meet only as required. This system has been employed during the past year and it seems to be satisfying the members. Each member agency feels that as the need occurs, it may ask that a meeting be held to consider one or more matters. This has resulted in the saving of time and the concentration of effort on problems which the members consider to be of major importance."

Secretariat's Evaluation of Subcommittee Activities:

The Agriculture Subcommittee is a particularly close "family", and the key members have been personally acquainted for many years. Last year, however, it functioned more as a "review and watch" committee than as an active coordinating group. This was partly due to security clearance difficulties of certain members, some of which have now been overcome. Some of the best informed individuals in the community (on Sino-Soviet Bloc agriculture) were born behind the Iron Curtain and have only limited access to highly classified materials. Accordingly, the bulk of the research must be done in ORR on an "all-source" basis and then sanitized to Secret or even Confidential levels before results can be discussed with some of the other interested agencies. The method of doing this seems to be working relatively satisfactorily.

At the moment the group is actively considering a State Department proposal for an extremely comprehensive study of the future potential of Soviet agriculture. If several agencies (particularly State and Agriculture) decide that they would be in a position to assist ORR by undertaking substantial contributions to this study, the subcommittee will probably soon recommend a major coordinated subcommittee project for the months ahead.

Recommended EIC Action:

1. To commend this subcommittee for its present functioning.
2. To express the hope that other agencies besides ORR will be able to make important contributions to future analysis of Sino-Soviet Bloc agriculture.
3. To request the subcommittee to expedite submission to the EIC of its recommendations on the State Department proposal for a study of the future outlook for Soviet agricultural production.